

CITY ANTIQUITIES.—In Cateaton-street, on the east side of Milk-street, Cheap-side, where the ground has been excavated a considerable depth for the purpose of making a foundation for some warehouses which are now in course of erection, the workmen have discovered a large quantity of Roman earthenware, consisting of jugs, &c., and many ancient coins. On Wednesday week, on coming to a cesspool, which was under the surface about fifteen feet, a hen's egg was found quite perfect, which must have been there 200 or 300 years. A few days ago much curiosity was excited, in consequence of the workmen meeting with several piles of wood, which are fixed in the earth at a depth of about ten feet from the surface. There were two sets of piles, at about six feet from each other. In each set there are nine piles (forming a square) each pile being about five feet high. Upon these piles were several trunks of trees, which have been removed. They are supposed to have been placed there at a period long before the fire of London, as the transverse pieces of wood have no appearance of the action of fire upon them. Many antiquarians have been to view the spot, and have had a draught and plan of this mode of building of former times. It was thought by Mr. Hawke, the builder, that a cesspool might have been under, and that the piles were to support some large structure; but which was not the case. There formerly stood here an ancient public-house, called the Paul's Head. Some months ago the remains of a garden were found close by, while excavating for a sewer. Very extensive remains of foundation walls have been dug up, which were composed and cemented together in the most solid manner. The material consisted of cliff, flint and chalk, and sandstone, and so firmly united, that the pickaxe could not penetrate, and in order to break the walls into pieces, the wedge was applied. Upon these walls the houses, which have been recently pulled down, were built. They have been entirely removed, in order to make a foundation sufficiently firm for the houses now being erected.

KING WILLIAM'S COLLEGE.—We have much pleasure in stating that active measures are now taking for the restoration of this building. The necessary timber has been purchased, a cargo forwarded to Derby Haven, and workmen are employed in clearing the ruins. Advantage will be taken of this opportunity to introduce numerous improvements in the structure, more especially in the chapel, the great resonance in which, in its former state, was a subject of general complaint. We understand that the sum insured has been received, which, together with the amount of nearly 700*l.* already subscribed in the island (to which the munificent donation of 300*l.* was contributed by our excellent bishop), will, we hope, go far in enabling the trustees to replace the college on a much superior footing to its former condition. One suggestion has we hear, been thrown out, which will, we hope, be acted upon—namely, that the building be divided into three or more separate parts, having only one communication on each floor, to be closed by an iron door. This would on any similar occasion effectually cut off the progress of the flames, and thus guard, as far as human means can, against a similar calamity. Had such been the case at the late fire, the destruction would have been confined to the wing where it originated. It is fully expected that every thing will be ready for the reception of the students after the midsummer vacation. —*Monk Herald.*

THE QUEEN'S NEW SUMMER-HOUSE.—Six of the frescoes, which have been some time in progress, to decorate the new summer temple in Buckingham Palace gardens, are completed. The poem illustrated is the *Masque of Comus*. The eight artists charged with their execution are Messrs. Eastlake, Leslie, Stanfield, Macleise, Etty, Uwins, and Sir William Ross. The building is a rustic octagon, standing on the top of an artificial hill.

Mr. James Phillips, the sculptor, has just completed his bust of Professor Wilson. It is an admirable likeness. It is to be cut in marble for the friends and admirers of the professor in his native town of Paisley.

CITY OF LONDON SCHOOL.—The corporation having devoted the fine of 400*l.* paid some years ago by Mr. Thomas Tegg, the bookseller and publisher, to be executed from serving the office of sheriff, towards the establishment of an exhibition to one of the universities for the benefit of pupils of the above school, Mr. Tegg has manifested his approval of such an appropriation by recently making the important addition to this fund of 100*l.*; and in return for so distinguished an act of liberality, the committee of the school have agreed that the exhibition shall in future be designated "The Tegg Scholarship or Exhibition." Mr. Tegg has also accompanied his gift with a number of valuable books for the library of the school. The corporation has lately caused one of the principal windows in the building to be enriched by the insertion in its place of the armorial bearings of the following benefactors of the school—viz. The corporation of London, Dr. Conquest, the late Sir James Shaw, Bart., Mr. Tegg, and Mr. W. S. Hale, the chairman of the select committee. In addition to which a statue will shortly be put up, which is in preparation by Mr. S. Nixon, of the original founder of the establishment, John Carpenter, town-clerk of London in the reign of Henry VI., and one of the executors of the famous Sir Richard Whittington.

PROJECTED IMPROVEMENTS AT DOVER.—We understand that the Earl of Guilford, the noble proprietor of Frith Farm, near the Castle, is about to apply to Parliament for a private Act to enable him to let a portion of the valley on lease for building purposes, and that the plans for the erection of splendid terraces, said to be equal in design and magnitude to any in the kingdom, have been prepared, as also for detached villas; altogether, nearly 1,500 residences are contemplated to be formed on this delightful spot. It is also, we believe, part of the plan to make another outlet from the town, into the Deal-road, past the Castle Jetty, by which the Castle-hill may be avoided, and the distance to Deal considerably lessened. We hope to see the plans of the noble Earl carried out, as we feel convinced it will prove a good speculation. —*Dover Telegraph.*

GIANT-SHED.—Messrs. Ainsworth and Co. are now erecting a new power-loom shed, and as we are informed, it is the largest in the world; it will not be uninteresting to give a few of the particulars respecting it. The shed is 350 feet in length, by 187 in breadth, divided into 36 bays. The roof is supported by 352 columns. It is calculated to contain 1,650 looms, and when complete the number of hands actually employed in the room will be 835. The production of the looms will average per week 13,200 pieces, 20 yards each, or 315 pieces per minute. This applies to the weaving alone, independent of the spinning and other departments. —*Preston Guardian.*

COPPER BALLOON.—A curious experiment is about to be made on air-balloons, which is likely to excite the curiosity of the public. A balloon, composed of copper, is so far completed, that it is now exhibited to the public. This immense globe is formed of sheets of copper, united and soldered. The object proposed by this experiment is to resolve the problem of the employment of metals in the construction of balloons; it is expected by this experiment to advance the question of aerial navigation. When it shall have been ascertained that solid metallic envelopes may be substituted for light silk, it is considered it will be a step towards the application of locomotives in the shape of balloons.

THE ULVERSTONE COPPER ORE MINING COMPANY.—This company, whose works are now in full operation at Cockley Beck, in Lancashire, for the purpose of obtaining this valuable mineral, have now, we learn, every chance of ultimate success, several large pieces having been already taken out. The works lie directly on the opposite side of the "Old Man" to those of the Coniston Company, and it is supposed by eminent geologists that the interior of this large mountain abounds with inexhaustible veins of this material. —*Preston Chronicle.*

Mr. Bailey has received a commission for a statue in marble of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, for the Masonic Hall, at the Freemasons' Tavern.

STEAM-BOAT VENTILATION.—One of the Addicombe Professors, Lieut. Cook, R.N., F.R.S., has invented a method of ventilating steam-boats, which promises fair to add materially to the comfort of passengers by these vessels. Those who have merely crossed the Channel, especially by night in boisterous weather, are well aware of the impurity of the air which passengers, however delicate, are under the disagreeable necessity of inhaling, and which of itself is quite enough to produce sickness; but in a hot climate, the evil is of still greater magnitude. Even in large steam-boats, invalid passengers have been fairly driven upon deck in the night from the lower cabins, finding it impossible to remain in such an atmosphere. The evil being universally admitted, it remains to be seen how far the remedy will be applied, should it in practice prove as efficient as in principle it appears to be sound. A cylinder—in which a small piston moves air-tight—has two valves at each end; through one, opening downwards, fresh air is admitted into a vacuum; which is, by the next action of the piston, forced through the other valve at the same end, opening outwards into tubes, and by these conveyed to every cabin upon each deck; while the hot, or foul air, is at the same time drawn off from these cabins into a vacuum above the piston, through a valve opening inwards, from whence it is finally ejected through the fourth valve, opening outwards into the open air. The effect produced will, of course, depend upon the size of the cylinder, and this upon the size of the vessel. One 2 feet in diameter—the piston having a two-foot stroke—with tubes and valves sufficiently large, would force in about 100 cubic feet, or above 600 gallons, of fresh air (drawing off the same quantity of impure air) every minute. Large steam-boats might have two cylinders. The machinery may, in an instant, be discontinued, so as to cease from acting. The fresh air would be conveyed in a regular stream, and not be intermitting in its effect.

WESTMINSTER BRIDGE.—A beautiful design by Mr. Barry, for an iron bridge on the site of the present bridge, has been published. It consists of five elliptical arches, is of a light and graceful structure, and is at least 14 feet lower than the present bridge. The plan for this new structure is proposed in consequence of the unsafe and unsatisfactory state of the foundation of the existing bridge, as well as to improve the navigation of the river, and facilitate traffic by lowering the carriage-way. It is said that an iron bridge of this description could be constructed for less than double the amount that would be required to repair and render secure the present unseemly structure. The cost has been estimated at 125,000*l.*, including the expenses for erecting a temporary wooden bridge, and it is understood that this sum might be raised, for the most part, if not wholly, upon the security of the income from the property belonging to the Bridge Commission. —*Globe.*

Active preparations are going forward at Waltham, for the erection of a more commodious national school and house for the master. The first stone will be laid in a few days. This is a very worthy undertaking, and will be credit to the parish, an honour to its founder, and an example worthy of imitation to all the villages around. —*Nottingham Journal, March 15th.*

There was found lately on clearing the canal at Rheims, a medal of Julia, the mother of Alexander Severus. She was assassinated at the same time as her son, A.D. 235. The head is well preserved.

The longest canal communication in the world extends from St. Petersburg to the frontiers of China, over a space of 4,472 miles. It was commenced by Peter the Great.

PRINTING IN MANCHESTER.—In 1598 the first printing press was erected in Manchester: in 1844 there are, it is estimated, upwards of 500.

Of the total number of dwelling-houses in Ireland, namely, 1,326,839, 1,024,575 are mud cabins.

A marble statue of Sir Anselm Cooper, of colossal dimensions, is nearly ready for St. Paul's Cathedral.